

The Honorable Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing to you today as a current DISH Network and former DirectTV subscriber who would like to add my support to the pending merger of EchoStar and DIRECTV. The combination of these two satellite providers will provide numerous benefits to consumers like me.

By merging, the combined company will be a much stronger competitor and can offer more programming choices. In addition to local channels for all, the merger will bring the availability of affordable high-speed Internet service, which I currently subscribe to, by satellite to over 40 million Americans who don't have high-speed Internet access. This will be especially advantageous to rural communities, like the one I live in, Grass Valley, CA. Starstream internet is the only 'fast' internet provider likely to be available for the foreseeable future, from Echostar. I'd like to see all Americans have the same opportunity for fast internet access.

In the interest of improving our access to competitive television and Internet service, I urge you to lend your support to this merger.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Carey
17306 Brewer Rd.
Grass Valley, CA 95949